The Coppy of a Letter and Commission, of the King of *Spaine*, Phillip the third, sent vnto the Vice-roy of Portugall, dated the 20. day of Iune, In the yeare of our Lord God. 1602.

Wherein the dealings and trade of Ships & Marchandize is forbidden, with the subiectes of Holland, Zealand and England, &c. with the said Lands and Countries of Spaine and Portugall.

Whereby appeareth the inueterate, and continuall malice of the said Spaniards, against the Dominions of England, Holland and Zealand, &c.

Truely translated out of the Spanish originall, into the Dutch tongue; and now translated againe out of the Dutch Copye, into English.

Spain. Philip III. King
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LONDON,
Printed for Thomas Pauier, and are to be solde at his shop in Cornehill, at the signe of the Cat and Parets, neere the Royall Exchange. 1603.

BRITISH MUSEUM

To the curteous Reader.

CVrteous Reader, after that Phillip the ſecond of that name King of Spaine, had vexed theſe Countries of Holland and Zealand, with tedious and continual wars, and with many Imbargos or arreſtes, made vpon their Ships and Merchandize, to the mighty hindrance of their Nauigation and Mariners, & to the great damage and ouerthrow of many honeſt Marchants: And not therewith contented, vſed moreouer his great Tiranye againſt the Maſters and Mariners, putting them into his Gallyes, and like vnto poore miſerable ſlaues, with chaines and intollerable trauailes and labours tormenting them, vntill ſuch time as the Almighty God (by the wiſe dealings of the Honorable Lords the States) at laſt did ſend releaſe and freedome vnto a great nũber, which then remained aliue. And after this, his ſonne, Phillip the third, comming to the Crowne after the death of his Father, ſeeketh & practiſeth to Imitate herein, the waies & foote-ſteps of his

Father, as it appeareth moſt plainly by this Letter, dated the 20. day of Iune 1602. ſent vnto the Vice-roy of Portugall: Wherein hee declareth thoſe of Holland and Zealand, for enemyes and rebels to God and his Maieſty: Notwithſtanding they were neuer bound by oath of dutye vnto him, nor euer were his ſubiects: meaning in this ſort to rule and gouerne ouer them as his Father hath done before him: which is nothing at al to be wondred at, ſeeing he hath bin nouriſhed and brought vp vnder the wings of the holie fathers of the Spaniſh Inquiſition: wee haue in ſuch ſort foſtred him, that they name him to be *Humani generis deſiderium*, that by him they may fullie effect their rage and tyranie according to their owne wiſhed deſire, to the ſurpreſſion of theſe lands and their priueledges, and alſo to the ſpoting out of Gods holye word, from which our mercifull God defend and keepe vs. Amen.

An Edict, set foorth & publiſhed by the King of Spaine, againſt all Ships and their lading, comming out of England, Holland, and Zealand: tearming them by the names of Rebels of God and of his Maieſty.

The King.

MArqueſſe of Caſtel Rodrigo, principall of my Secret Councell, my Viceroy and Captaine Generall in the Kingdome of Portugall. You haue vnderſtood long ſince, ẏ cauſes which moued the K. my Lord (whome God hath taken vnto him) to prohibit the trade & dealings, which my rebels of Holland & Zealand vſed in theſe Countries & Kingdomes, w̄ the Engliſh & other enemies of our Lord God, & of my kingdoms: as alſo ẏ reaſons which haue hapned in my time cōcerning ẏ ſame matter, & ſuch

such as haue lately hapned, your selfe beeing present in Councell, when the same was resolued vpon and determined. And seeing that at this present time, many reasons concurre, mouing vs to the execution of the said prohibition, and to see that such orders as are therein prescribed, be seuerely holde and maintained: my selfe being by diuers enformed (that notwithstanding the said orders) the aforesaid Englishmen, Rebels, and what enemies else soeuer, haue in no other place elsewhere so common and frequent trade, as in the Hauens of these our dominions, dayly arriuing in our said Hauens, with their own Ships laden, & with false and culloured proofes and Paspoits, as if they came from free Cities or Townes, or else with the Ships of the high Dutch, or other strange Ships: although that by the nature of the said lading it is presumed that the commodities are of the Ilands, or English: the keeping of the said ordenances (so made & published vpon all these reasons) being of so great importance, that the reducing of the state of the same countries dependeth thereon. Whereof I haue resolued, that this contraction and commerce shal be wholy broken and prohibited, to the ende that therewith also the molestations (which vnder colour hærof) haue been accustomed to be vsed towards the Ships of my friends and confederates, may cease, which haue been

esteemed

esteemed for enemies, and that the one ceasing, the other shall be prohibited. To which ende I haue consented, that you onely, & such persons (as your selfe shall nominate) haue power and authoritie to take knowledge of all matters and occurrences appertaining to these arrestes. Likewise I giue vnto you power and authoritie by vertue of this present commission and facultie, to visit, and to giue order that all Ships of strangers which shall come into the Hauens of these our said kingdomes may bee visited, naming and appointing thereunto in euerye Hauen, some one person of such qualitie & credit, that your selfe may bee therein quiet and contented, which shall vse therein such faithfulnes and integritie, as may be needefull and necessary, or at least wise in the most frequented Hauens of moste importaunce, with commission that to this effect they may seaze on all, or at least wise on such as shal fall first into their hands: & such as shall be found to be of the Rebels, English, or other myne enemies, you shall arrest all the persons which shall come in the same Shippes: and shall also attache and lay handes on all the goods and Marchandize which they shall bring, to the ende that (the same being conuinced, and proued to come frō the landes of enemies and Rebels, and the actions being prosecuted according to forme of

law) you condemne the same to be lost and confiscated, as by me is ordained, applycating the same according to the accustomed manner, as more perticularly at large appeareth in the aforesaid ordinances, and others which I esteeme as inserted hereunto. And whatsoeuer you shall in this manner condemne and confiscate, you shall presently cause to be solde, without let or hindrance of any appeale whatsoeuer, which may in the Interim happen, and the same shall be done by Port sale or Out-cry, to the most benefit and profit you can. Unto all which doings, the Iercher Generall Don Iuan de Londona, shall repayre to be present, as soone as any such Shippes or any of them shall be taken or seazed: and that the same Shippes, and the goods therein laden, shall be Inuentared, if the same doe happen where hee shall be resident. And for other places thereabouts, such other as shall be appointed for this seruice in his name. And all such summes of money as shall procede hereof, you shall giue order that the same shall be put into a Chist, with three keyes, hauing different lockes, in the presence of the beforenamed Iercher Generall: whereof you shal haue one, Don Iuan de Londona (aforesaid) the second, and the third shall be deliuered vnto the Paymaster, who shall receiue these moneyes. And my will and pleasure is, that noman shal

touch

touch the same money, for any cause whatsoe-
uer, that shall happen for my seruice, how speci-
all or importunate the same may bee, without
my perticular order before had. And in the
Hauens betweene Duero and Mino where the
like diligence is needfull, the same shall bee ac-
complished in the presence of such as shall serue
there for Sercher of the Martiall men in those
quarters: who also shall haue one key of the
Chist which shall there be appointed, and the
second shall be giuen to him whome you shall
thereunto nominate, and the third shall serue
for the Paymaster generall, vsing such dili-
gence as is before specifyed. And to the ende
that men may herein proceed with such iustifi-
cation and vpright dealing, as is thereunto ne-
cessary or needfull: you are hereby aduertised,
that all the appeales (which for Iustice sake
may in these causes take place, made from the
sentences pronounced by you, or by such persons
as by your commission shall be thereunto ap-
pointed) shall bee made before my Councell at
warres, and not before any others sitting in
place of Iustice, or other Courts whatsoeuer.
To all which, and to euery part therof, & what-
soeuer else shal thereto appertaine, depend ther-
on, or concerne the same: I giue and lend you
so full power, commission & authority: & to such
persons as you shal thereunto appoint or nomi-
nate, as therunto shall be needfull and requisite.

And I commaund that no man, of what quality, respect, or condition soeuer, shal haue in intermeddle or intrude himselfe, but you onely, and such persons as you shall thereunto nominate, and that such persons shall remit and send vnto you, & to such persons which shal execute this commission by your appointment, all such processes and actions, which are or shall be brought into their Courts, touching questions and differences vpon goods, comming out of Holland, Zealand, and England: and also I comm and that they seaze, forbeare, and forbid all farther proceedings therin, eyther directly or vndirectly, and al such notaries or other persons, which shall haue any manner of such inuentaries, or actions, concerning and belonging vnto any such arrestes or possessions, I commaund them to deliuer vnto you the originals, as soone as you shall demaund the same, on such penalty as you shall set thereon. Also, I commaund the Master of the Requestes, and the Gouernour of the Hauens, and the Corregidores, and all other Iudges, and Courts of my kingdome of Portugall, that they hinder you not in the execution of these matters before written: but that they shew vnto you all needfull fauour, helpe and assistance: and to al others (as is aforesaid) which you shall nominate or appoint: and that they shall inuiolably follow and keepe, such orders which you shall eyther giue, or send them, because

cause the necessity of our seruice so requireth. Giuen at S. Lorenço the 20. day of June 1602. Under written, L. the King, by the commaundement of our King. Esteuan de Ibarra.

Don *Iohn Christoual de Moura* *Marques* of the *Castel Rodrigo*, great Commander of *Alcantara*, one of the Priuie Councell of his Maiestie. *Vice-roy* and Captaine Generall in this Kingdome of *Portugall*.

DOcter Michiel de la Plaha, the Ship S. Iacob, and others are in this Hauen arrested and attached, because it is reported that they are of, or come from the Enemies Countries: and for asmuch as it is needefull that their causes bee determined withall such dilligence and forme as his Maiesty hath written vnto me in his Kinglie letter the 11. of June this present yeare, wherof the Attenticke coppie shall bee deliuered vnto you, heerewith I doe binde and nominate you, to the ende that you follow the contents thereof in such manner as if the same were directed vnto you, to determine the cause of the said Ships, withal the incidents

cidents, and dependants thereof, and to nomi-
nate, Notaries, Alguasyl, & other seruants and
Officers which thereunto are needefull: and to
cause such salarye to be giuen vnto them as you
shall appoint. To all which I giue you all, and
the same power & authority as I my selfe haue
from his Maiestie: And for as much as in the
meane season, I haue not any thing to the con-
trarye to commaund you: you shall admit and
imbrace all such denuntiations, and informati-
ons as shall be brought vnto you, concerning
this matter: And shall determine the same ac-
cording to the contents of the said letter. Acted
at Lisborne the 10. day of August. 1602.

Don Christouall. At the com-
maundement of his
Excelency.

Iohn Basques de Camara.

FINIS.